NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF EMERGENCY REGULATIONS California Code of Regulations Title 15, Crime Prevention and Corrections Division 3, Department of Corrections

AUTHORITY:

Notice is Hereby Given that under authority granted by Penal Code (PC) Section 5058.3, and Labor Code (LC) Section 3214, the Director of the Department of Corrections (CDC), proposed to amend Section 3426 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 15, Division 3 relating to Employee Early Intervention Program.

REFERENCE:

These regulations implement, interpret and/or make specific PC Section 5054, Labor Code Sections 139.2, 3209.3, 3214, 4600 and 5307.1; CCR, Title 2, Section 714, CCR, Title 8, Sections 9785, 10132 and 10132.1, CCR, Title 15, Division 3, Section 3434, and Government Code Section 8547.2(b).

PUBLIC HEARING:

Date and Time: March 30, 2004_, 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Place: Resources Agency Auditorium

1416 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Purpose: To receive comments about this action.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

The public comment period will close <u>March 30, 2004 at 5:00 p.m.</u> Any person may submit public comments in writing (by mail, by fax, or e-mail) regarding the proposed changes. To be considered by the Department, comments must be submitted to the Department of Corrections, Regulation and Policy Management Branch, P.O. Box 942883, Sacramento, CA 94283-0001; by fax at (916)322-3842; or by e-mail at RPMB@executive.corr.ca.gov before the close of the comment period.

CONTACT PERSON:

Please direct any inquiries regarding this action to:

Rick Grenz, Chief,

Regulation and Policy Management Branch

Department of Corrections

P.O. Box 942883, Sacramento, CA 94283-0001

Telephone (916) 322-9702

In the event the contact person is unavailable, inquires should be directed to the following back-up person:

A. Cunningham

Regulation Management Unit

Telephone (916) 322-9702

Questions regarding the substance of the proposed regulatory action should be directed to:

P. Cancilla

Environmental Health and Safety

Telephone (916) 323-6532

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LOCAL MANDATES:

This action imposes no mandates on local agencies or school districts, or a mandate, which requires reimbursement pursuant to Government Code Section 17561.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

• Cost or savings to any state agency: None

• Other non-discretionary cost or savings imposed on local agencies: None

• Cost or savings in federal funding to the state: None

EFFECT ON HOUSING COSTS:

The Department has made an initial determination that the proposed action will have no significant effect on housing costs.

COST IMPACTS ON REPRESENTATIVE PRIVATE PERSONS OR BUSINESSES:

The Department is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

SIGNIFICANT STATEWIDE ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON BUSINESS:

The Department has initially determined that the proposed regulations will not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESSES:

The Department has determined that the proposed regulations may not affect small businesses. It is determined that this action has no significant adverse economic impact on small business, because they are not affected by the internal management of state prisons.

ASSESSMENTS OF EFFECTS ON JOB AND/OR BUSINESS CREATION, ELIMINATION OR EXPANSION:

The Department has determined that the proposed regulation will have no affect on the creation of new or the elimination of existing jobs or businesses within California, or affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business in California.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES:

The Department must determine that no reasonable alternative considered by the Department, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Department, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulatory action.

AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED TEXT AND INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS:

The Department has prepared and will make available the text and the Initial Statement of Reasons of the proposed regulations. The rulemaking file for this regulatory action, which contains those items and all information on which the proposal is based (i.e., rulemaking file) is available to the public upon request directed to the Department's contact person. The proposed text, Initial Statement of

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Reasons, and the Notice of Proposed Action will also be made available on the Department's website http://www.cdc.state.ca.us.

AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS:

Following its preparation, a copy of the final statement of reasons may be obtained from the Department's contact person.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGES TO PROPOSED TEXT:

After considering all timely and relevant comments received, the Department may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If the Department makes modifications, which are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, it will make the modified text (with the changes clearly indicated) available to the public for at least 15 days before the Department adopts the regulations as revised. Requests for copies of any modified regulation text should be directed to the contact person indicated in this notice. The Department will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 days after the date on which they are made available.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW:

PC Section 5054 vests with the Director the supervision, management and control of the prisons, and the responsibility for the care, custody, treatment, training, discipline, and employment of inmates.

PC Section 5058 authorizes the Director to prescribe and amend regulations for the administration of prisons.

PC Section 5058.3 authorizes the Director to adopt, amend, or repeal emergency regulations conducted pursuant to Government Code Section 11340.

Labor Code Section 3214 requires the development and implementation of a Workers' Compensation Early Intervention Program in conjunction with all Authorized Employee Representative Associations (Unions), and provides the basis for the creation of the Early Intervention Selection Committee (EISC).

These proposed regulations will make the Return-to-Work Coordinator (RTWC) the non-voting chairperson of the EISC. The chairperson shall not be a voting member of the EISC. This will ensure that each Authorized Employee Representative Association and the Department have equal and balanced representation at the EISC meetings.

Section 3426 is amended to state that a non-voting chairperson shall be a member of the EISC and that the RTWC is the chairperson. The chairperson of the EISC will chair the EISC meeting and not participate in the voting. This will aid in unbiased and fair EIP decisions, and equal representation. The RTWC is usually a Rank and File State employee normally represented by the CSEA, Bargaining Unit 1. Prior to this proposed amendment, the RTWC was a voting member of the EISC. This gave CSEA, Bargaining Unit 1, two votes in the EISC and created an unequal representation issue with the Employee Representative Associations. Therefore it is necessary to have the chairperson of the EISC be a non-voting member.

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